



PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date: May 29, 2009

Number: 09-07

Subject: Information Related to National Accreditation

Summary:

This notice provides information related to options for California institutions and their approved educator preparation programs to work with national accrediting agencies while completing the Commission's required accreditation activities. This alert addresses two distinct areas related to national accreditation:

- (1) National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
 - Redesign-Continuous Improvement
 - Transformation Initiatives
 - National Recognition of Specific Educator Preparation Programs
 - Alternative Certification Programs
- (2) Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC)

Key Provisions Related to National Accreditation:

The California Education Code allows an institution to seek national accreditation from one or more of the national accrediting bodies at the same time as it completes Commission required accreditation activities, if the conditions specified in the *Accreditation Framework* (http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/PDF/accreditation_framework.pdf) are met. Information on the options related to national accreditation may be reviewed on this Commission web page: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/accred-alignment.html>.

1) National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education-NCATE

California and the Commission on Teacher Credentialing have had a partnership agreement with NCATE since 1989. NCATE has been examining its accreditation process and has recently adopted some proposals designed to both streamline the accreditation process and to encourage excellence.

The goals of NCATE's Redesign includes focusing the accreditation process on excellence in educator preparation, relevance to the institutions, stakeholders and the public, increasing the collegiality of the accreditation process, being inclusive of all institutions interested in meeting high standards, and making the process as cost-effective as possible. For more information than what is contained in this alert, visit the NCATE Redesign web page: <http://www.ncate.org/public/proposedRedesign.asp>. Aspects of the NCATE Redesign are discussed in the first two sections below: *Continuous Improvement* and *Transformation Initiatives*.

NCATE Redesign—Continuous Improvement

NCATE is working on a complete redesign of its accreditation system. The NCATE Board took action on May 15, 2009 to adopt the basic structure for its Redesign. Complete information on the implementation of the redesigned accreditation system is not yet available. But the following basic information is known at this time:

- By 2012, all continuing accreditation site visits will focus on “continuous improvement” within the unit. The redesign includes the Institutional Reports (IR) being due one year prior to the scheduled site visit and reviewed electronically. The feedback from the review of the IR and its linked evidence will shape the focus of the site visit. The general concept of the NCATE redesign is that all institutions seeking continued NCATE accreditation have already demonstrated that they meet standards, and that although all institutions must demonstrate that they continue to meet the NCATE standards, the focus will be on moving institutions from the “acceptable” range to the “target” range with respect to one or more standards.
- An institution may elect to organize its IR around either the full NCATE standard statement or the individual standard elements.
- The site visit team may be reduced to 3-5 team members and the length of the visit reduced from 5 days to 3-4 days.
- Reviewers will use documentation previously submitted by institutions in annual reports or Title II submissions as part of the site visit. The number of exhibits required will be reduced as will the number of preconditions required.

NCATE is preparing additional information to share with all NCATE accreditation institutions. As the Commission learns more, information will be shared with California NCATE accredited institutions.

NCATE and Transformation Initiatives

An option within NCATE's Redesign is for an accredited institution to elect to participate in a *Transformation Initiative (TI)*. Institutions that are interested in exercising leadership in transforming educator preparation to improve P-12 student learning may propose a research-based initiative to focus on during the accreditation activities. Institutions would still be

responsible to demonstrate that they continue to meet the NCATE standards and are focusing on continuous improvement. The initiative would be related to one or more of the NCATE Unit Standards and address major issues or challenges in educator preparation and quality.

An institution interested in participating in a **TI** would submit an IR 3 years before the scheduled site visit. The review of the IR and the accompanying electronic exhibits would need to demonstrate that the institution continues to meet the NCATE Unit Standards. An institution electing to participate in the **TI** would concurrently submit a proposal that describes the planned initiative, research components, and expected outcomes. A committee would review the **TI** proposal and consult with the institution on any modifications to the proposal. The **TI** would shape the site visit that would take place in three years. A new IR would not be submitted for the site visit.

NCATE National Recognition of Specific Approved Educator Preparation Programs

The NCATE Specialty Partnership Board (SPD) has approved California's program review process (Biennial Reports and Program Assessment accreditation activities) as equivalent to the NCATE SPA review process thus not requiring California institutions to submit documentation for SPA review. As of January 2009, California is allowed to confer NCATE *National Recognition* for those programs offered at NCATE accredited institutions where the selected Specialty Professional Association (SPAs) has judged California's adopted program standards to be adequately aligned with the SPA standards. At this time, California is able to confer *National Recognition* to the following credential programs offered at NCATE accredited institutions.

| California Credential | National Professional Association | |
|--|---|--------------|
| Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential | Association for Childhood Education International | ACEI |
| Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science | National Science Teachers Association | NSTA |
| Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science | National Council for the Social Studies | NCSS |
| Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health | American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance/ American Association for Health Education | AAHPERD/AAHE |
| Preliminary Administrative Services Credential | Educational Leadership Constituent Council | ELCC |
| Teacher Librarian Services Credential | American Library Association/ American Association of School Librarians | ALA/AASL |
| Early Childhood Specialist | National Association of Education of Young Children | NAEYC |

A complete listing of the California's NCATE accredited institutions and the programs that the Commission has identified for National Recognition is attached to this alert and will be available on the Commission's National Accreditation web page. A California NCATE-accredited

institution may state publically that the programs listed in the Appendix have *National Recognition* for the identified SPA.

NCATE and Alternative Certification Programs

NCATE has announced that it is currently working with alternative certification programs and that two programs are candidates for NCATE accreditation. Alternative Certification Programs are approved educator preparation programs offered by non-university sponsors. NCATE is now labeling these programs as *Diverse Pathways for Teacher Preparation* rather than Alternative Certification. If a non-university sponsor of an approved California educator preparation program is interested in more information on NCATE accreditation, please contact NCATE or Teri Clark of the Commission.

2) Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC)

The COA is currently considering an agreement to work with the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC). Such an agreement would allow approved California institutions to seek national accreditation from TEAC and state accreditation from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing through one set of accreditation activities. A draft agreement will be discussed at the June 2009 COA meeting. It is expected that a signed agreement will be in place before the end of 2009. If additional institutions are interested in seeking TEAC accreditation, please contact Commission staff member Teri Clark.

References:

National Professional Organization Accreditation: Alignment with the California Accreditation System: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/accred-alignment.html>

NCATE Redesign: <http://www.ncate.org/public/introMessage.asp>

TEAC Accreditation Information from the May 2009 COA Agenda:
<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/coa-agendas/2009-05/2009-05-item-17.pdf>

Additional Information:

Teri Clark, Administrator of Accreditation (telark@ctc.ca.gov)

NCATE: <http://www.ncate.org/public/ncatestaff.asp?ch=145> or Shari Francis: Shari@ncate.org

TEAC: <http://www.teac.org/index.php/about/staff/> or Rebecca Pelton at Rebecca@teac.org

Appendix

California NCATE Accredited Institutions and their Approved Programs with *National Recognition*

| NCATE accredited Institution | California Program with <i>National Recognition</i> |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Azusa Pacific University | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential Teacher Librarian Services Credential |
| California Lutheran University | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| CSU Long Beach | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential Teacher Librarian Services Credential |
| CSU Bakersfield | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| CSU Chico | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential Teacher Librarian Services Credential |
| CSU East Bay | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| CSU Fresno | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Early Childhood Specialist Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |

| NCATE accredited Institution | California Program with <i>National Recognition</i> |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| CSU Fullerton | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| CSU Los Angeles | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| CSU Monterey Bay | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| CSU Northridge | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| CSU San Bernardino | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| CSU San Marcos | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| CSU Stanislaus | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| Loyola Marymount University | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| San Diego State University | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |

| NCATE accredited Institution | California Program with <i>National Recognition</i> |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| San Francisco State University | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| San Jose State University | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential Teacher Librarian Services Credential |
| Sonoma State University | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| Stanford University | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health |
| University of San Diego | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential |
| University of the Pacific | Multiple Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Social Science Single Subject Preliminary Teaching Credential in Health Preliminary Administrative Services Credential Teacher Librarian Services Credential |